

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending July 13, 1997

Issue: 19-97

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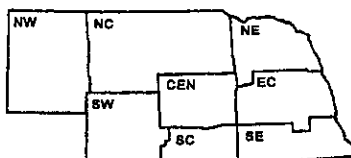
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National Agricultural Statistics Service
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures varied across the State as temperatures in the Panhandle and southwest portions averaged up to four degrees above normals while the remainder of the State averaged two degrees below normals for the week. Precipitation was widespread across the State with amounts ranging from traces to over three inches.

GENERAL

Wheat harvest made excellent progress last week except where delayed by rains or humid weather conditions, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Warmer temperatures and drying winds, offset slightly by high humidity, promoted rapid wheat maturity. These same conditions promoted rapid row crop development, except where lack of rainfall has stressed non-irrigated crops. Producers were busy cultivating soybeans, haying, spraying herbicides, irrigating crops, and routine chores.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 2% very poor, 10% poor, 39% fair, 46% good, and 3% excellent. As of Sunday, the crop was 55% ripe, compared with 47% last year and behind the 65% average. Statewide, wheat harvest was 26% complete, ahead of last year's 24% but only two days behind the 32% average. Weather conditions allowed a rapid harvest pace with the south central and southeast districts being the most advanced.

Corn condition rated 2% poor, 21% fair, 60% good, and 17% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 80% good to excellent while dryland corn rated 70% good to excellent. Corn development continued about ten days behind average. The warmer

CROPS (Cont.)

temperatures and drying winds began stressing the dryland corn last week. Some producers treated fields for corn borer.

Soybean condition rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 65% good, and 13% excellent. Producers were busy with chemical and mechanical weed control measures last week. Blooming had reached 18% as of Sunday, ahead of last year's 9% but the same as the average.

Sorghum condition rated 6% poor, 31% fair, 56% good, and 7% excellent.

Oats condition rated 3% poor, 31% fair, 56% good, and 10% excellent. Harvest for grain had begun across the State and totaled 8% at week's end. This compares to 5% last year and 12% for the average. Oat harvest for silage and hay continued active.

Dry bean condition rated 3% poor, 35% fair, 56% good, and 6% excellent. Blooming had progressed to 28% as of Sunday, compared with 12% last year.

Alfalfa condition rated 3% very poor, 14% poor, 35% fair, 38% good and 10% excellent. Second cutting activities were 23% complete. This compared with 42% last year and 37% average. Potato leaf hoppers were causing concern in spring seeded alfalfa and some established stands. Wild hay condition rated 2% very poor, 9% poor, 31% fair, 52% good, and 6% excellent. Native grass haying was active.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 3% very poor, 13% poor, 31% fair, 52% good, and 1% excellent. Pastures looked good and were providing ample grazing potential where moisture had been received. However, other areas were experiencing slow regrowth and the possibility of supplemental haying for cattle if moisture is not received soon.

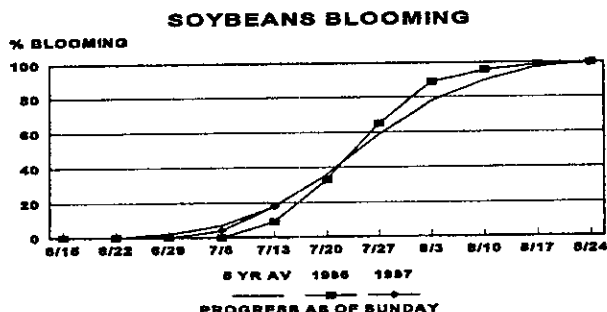
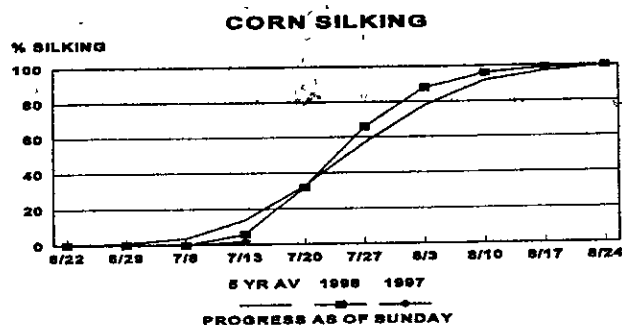
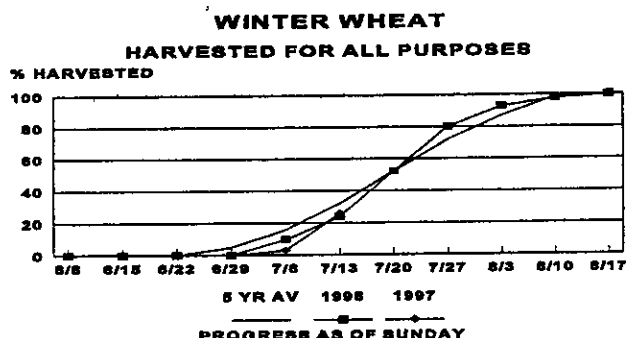
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF JULY 13, 1997	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Wheat Turning	93	100	90	95	100	100	100	100	97	92	97	99
% Wheat Ripe	12	18	40	44	54	80	95	95	55	29	47	65
% Wheat Harvested	1	1	1	18	13	27	57	66	26	3	24	32
% Soybeans Blooming	n/a	11	4	26	10	10	5	47	18	4	9	18
% Oats Harvested	6	5	6	16	9	16	17	10	8	n/a	5	12
% Dry Beans Blooming	36	0	0	0	n/a	20	n/a	n/a	28	1	12	n/a
% Alfalfa Second Cutting	3	11	10	30	17	47	55	62	23	5	42	37
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JULY 11, 1997												
Days suitable	6.1	6.9	5.6	7.0	4.4	5.7	5.7	4.6	5.7	5.0	6.0	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	2	6	5	15	0	1	24	0	6	3	2	
(Percent) - Short	30	41	15	71	16	27	52	23	32	25	41	
- Adequate	68	53	79	14	73	71	24	75	59	70	56	
- Surplus	0	0	1	0	11	1	0	2	3	2	1	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	3	1	1	0	9	0	2	1	1	
(Percent) - Short	15	18	11	58	14	26	52	22	24	19	28	
- Adequate	85	82	86	40	83	73	36	77	73	79	69	
- Surplus	0	0	0	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	2	

n/a = not available

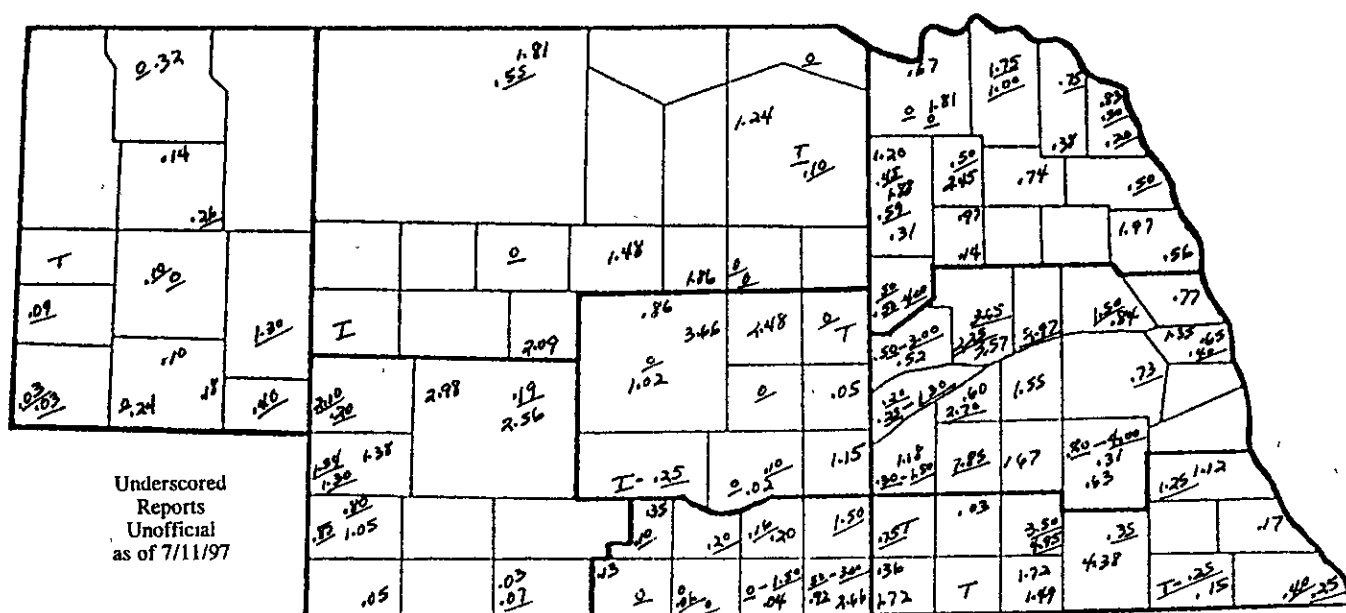
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1997



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - JULY 12, 1997

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.16	1.70	1.07	1.16	1.14	1.34	.61	1.01
Total since April 1	10.69	11.36	11.58	8.57	11.43	9.52	17.77	12.44
Normal since April 1	8.73	10.23	11.68	11.32	12.40	9.69	11.07	12.35
Total as % of normal	122%	111%	99%	76%	92%	98%	161%	101%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,
WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1997

WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1997									
Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	100	58	77	---	.32	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	97	52	76	+2	T	1019	1188	1158
	Sidney	95	52	75	---	.24	953	1124	1149
NC	Valentine	97	48	74	0	1.81	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	957	1126	1257
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	1000	1180	1361
NE	Norfolk	87	52	73	-2	.97	---	---	---
	Sioux City	87	50	72	-4	.83	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	1034	1202	1394
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	1019	1196	1378
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	1110	1288	1453
CEN	Grand Island	92	56	76	-1	1.15	1093	1280	1428
	Ord	89	58	76	---	2.48	1049	1230	1406
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	1122	1312	1416
EC	Lincoln	92	57	77	-1	.31	1176	1375	1563
	Omaha	89	57	75	-1	.65	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	1104	1288	1445
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	1159	1353	1521
SW	Imperial	95	54	75	---	1.05	---	---	---
	North Platte	96	51	75	+2	2.56	1078	1257	1295
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	1174	1360	1342
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	1097	1288	1405
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	1191	1393	1413
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	1146	1338	1561
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	1120	1311	1437

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University